

DRAFT

**Minutes of the Meeting of  
Quonochontaug Central Beach Fire District Board of Governors  
9:00am, August, 13, 2022  
Quonochontaug Grange  
(Downstairs)  
5662 Post Road.  
Charlestown, RI 02813**

**Members in attendance:** Al Bartosic, Dede Consoli, Ellen Frost, Julia Mathews, Susan Wilson-Perez, Maud Bailey, Julie Low, Julia Mathews, and Carollyne Weidler

Members absent: Bob Frazier, Fred Newton

Also in attendance were Chris Harris, Assistant Clerk, Peter Rettig, Manager of Beach and Dunes, and members of the public

**1. Call to order**

**Moderator, Susan Wilson- Perez**

The Moderator, Susan Wilson Perez, called the meeting to order at approximately 9:00 am.

**2. Approval of Minutes:**

**Chris Harris, Assistant Clerk**

Approval of the draft minutes of the BoG meeting dated 7/23/22 was tabled to the next meeting.

**3. Treasurer's Report**

**Treasurer, Carollyne Weidler**

Carollyne updated the BoG Tax bills were mailed and she already received one payment. On account receivable still waiting to receive monies from Steve Piccolo for his portion of the garbage can bill. Julia Mathews will follow up.

**4. Moderator's Report**

**Moderator, Sue Wilson-Perez**

Sue started by reporting that so far only one possible motion outside of our standard Annual Meeting motions, such as Budget and Nominating, might be on the table and that the BoG will vote on those motions at the next BoG meeting on Aug. 27<sup>th</sup>.

Sue reported on the audit of incursions onto our right of way in a community friendly right of way as listed as an item in Public Works.

Sue led a discussion on the issue of vendor management. Al said protocols are in place, for instance committee chairs are made aware of what insurance coverage our insurance company requires for vendors and then that amount needs to be in contracts we sign. Finance reviews contracts to ensure that amounts are within the approved budget items and insurance levels are appropriate, but commissioners are responsible for the details of the contract.

Sue then a discussion on the beach etiquette issue of people placing empty chairs down on the beach hours before arriving to reserve beach space. A discussion ensued. Julie Low made a **motion** to add a rule prohibiting such behavior (Called "ghost tawning" of chairs) in the early morning during prime season (July 1 through Labor Day). One can move unattended ghost town chairs, towels and umbrellas. The **motion** was **seconded** and **passed** with Dede Consoli, Julia Mathews, Julie Low, Maud Bailey, and Carollyne Weidler voting in favor. Al Bartosic and Ellen Frost voted against.

**5. Committee Chair Reports:**

**A. Community Property**

**Julia Mathews**

Since the garbage can issue was covered earlier in the meeting Julia had nothing further to report.

**B. Long Range Planning:**

**Ellen Frost**

She also updated the BoG on recent Comprehensive Plan work. The CP working group is taking a break from interviewing until September. She also reported that she would like the group to start drafting in the fall.

LRP met with URI Hydrologists on water in the District and on the Neck. The moderator asked that at this time all water quality issues should be done by public works. LRP should not have any additional work streams.

Ellen reported to the BoG on the research LRP is doing on water metering. LRP will be putting together some educational information to disseminate to the community.

Next, Ellen reported on the Quonnie Neck Water Group meeting with Bob Ferrari went well.

### **C. Public Works**

**Sue W. Perez and Julia Mathew for Bob Frazier**

Since Bob was absent, Sue reviewed the right of way issue in her report and updated the Board on the ongoing discussions with DOH and CRMC. Public Works at their next meeting will be discussing a procedure where homeowners will have to communicate to PW any plans that may impact the public right of way or District land, such as landscaping and drainage.

Sue also reported that PW committee working on reviewing and negotiating NWSI's water service contract.

Sue updated the BoG on bringing water to lots 290 & 294 West Beach Road. The lot owners have been sent estimate of costs and PW is requesting deposits to cover the estimate.

Julia Matthews then presented the discussion concerning prohibiting vehicular traffic from entering Surfside Avenue from Lot 54A / 29 Dowd Drive. She circulated a map and a discussion point document (please see attached) to the BoG. Discussion ensued with some comments from the public. Due to the congested nature of the intersection and the fact that the lot in question has existing street access on West Beach Rd., a **motion** prohibiting a curb cut to Surf Avenue and any vehicle use including either entering or exiting Surf Avenue from the sliver lot attaching Lot 54A/29 Dowd Drive to Surfside was made and **Seconded**. The **Motion** passed with all members of the Board of Governors in attendance voting in favor (other than the Moderator, who under the District's By-Laws only votes in the case of a tie).

### **B. Finance**

**Al Bartosic**

Al Bartosic asked the BoG for any changes or additions to the draft 2023 budget. Finance will be meeting to finalize the proposed budget next Saturday, 8/20. Al then discussed the 2023 Budget. Under the 2023 Budget discussion, Al reported to the BoG about recent discussions concerning reserve funding.

## **7. Managers Reports:**

### **a. Merchandise Sales**

**Dede Consoli**

Dede reported that request for grant funding is now available until Friday 8/26. Updated the BoG on merchandise sales this summer.

### **b. The Police Liaison & Manager of Beach Gate Monitors:**

**Julie Low**

Julie reported on the recent eblast regarding golfcart issues and other quality of life issues. A member of the public asked about locking the Tennis Courts because of recent vandalism events. A short discussion ensued.

### **c. Special Events**

**Dede Consoli for Elaine Heilemann**

Dede reported for Elaine that 175 people attended the Quonnie social. Scavenger Hunt also went well.

### **d. Beach and Dunes**

**Peter Rettig**

Peter reported on new budget for 2023 and that he is still working on beach erosion. Sue suggested that she will arrange to have a conference call Scott P. Rabideau, PWS of Natural Resource Services, Inc., our consultant who works on CRMC issues for us and Peter to discuss the erosion. If LRP gets the name of a beach erosion expert from URI they will move forward with meeting him with Peter and the new manager for Beach and Dunes.

## **7. Executive Session:**

A **motion** was made and seconded to enter into Executive Session pursuant to the relevant requirements of the R.I. General Laws 42-46-5(a)(2) potential and/or pending litigation regarding the following matter CRMC Notice of Violation; 66 Seabreeze Drive, Charlestown; Violation File No: 22-0010. The seconded **motion** passed with all

members of the Board of Governors in attendance voting in favor (other than the Moderator, who under the District's By-Laws only votes in the case of a tie).

The minutes of the Executive Session were reviewed and no edits were made. The motion was seconded and passed with all members of the Board of Governors in attendance voting in favor (other than the Moderator, who under the District's By-Laws only votes in the case of a tie).

Then the matter was not discussed. A **motion** to vote to reconvene open session was made and **seconded** and **passed** with all members of the Board of Governors in attendance voting in favor (other than the Moderator, who under the District's By-Laws only votes in the case of a tie).

After reconvening into open session, a **motion** was made to vote to seal the minutes of the Executive Session. The **motion** was **seconded** and **passed** with all members of the Board of Governors in attendance voting in favor (other than the Moderator, who under the District's By-Laws only votes in the case of a tie).

As stated above no votes other than acceptance of the minutes and to reconvene into open session were taken during the Executive Session.

### **8. Adjournment.**

Julie Low made a **motion** was made to adjourn. It was **seconded** and **passed** with all members of the Board of Governors in attendance voting in favor (other than the Moderator, who under the District's By-Laws only votes in the case of a tie).

Respectfully Submitted,

Maud Bailey, Clerk  
Quonochontaug Central Beach Fire District